

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-13 /083 W

----- 041683

R 071503Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8472

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR

SUBJECT: FONMIN'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: DAMASCUS 4314

1. MINISTER CULTURE KAYYALI PARTICIPATED IN MEETING OF SYRIA'S PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT JUNE 30 WHICH DISCUSSED POSSIBLE TRIP BY KHADDAM TO MOSCOW. HE TOLD AMBASSADOR JULY 7 THAT KHADDAM WILL TRY TO NEUTRALIZE SOVIET CRITICISMS OF SYRIAN POLICY IN LEBANON.

2. ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, SCP LEADER BAGDASH HAD SUGGESTED AT MEETING OF FRONT THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS PARTY PERFORM THIS MISSION TO MOSCOW BUT KHADDAM HAD ASSERTED THIS WAS JOB FOR HIM ALONE TO DO.

3. IN PASSING, KAYYALI DEPLORED INABILITY OF BOTH SARG'S INFORMATION MINISTRY AND FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PRESENT

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SYRIAN FOREIGN POLICY EFFECTIVELY. SAID THIS WAS DUE NOT

ONLY TO WEAKNESS IN SYRIAN CADRE BUT ALSO TO A REGRETTABLE
DETERMINATION OF THE RULING BAATH PARTY TO DOMINATE THE
WORK OF THOSE MINISTRIES TO A STIFLING EXTENT.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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